SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS

NEIGHBORHOOD MATCHING FUND

Seattle's uniqueness and quality of life is tied to strong neighborhoods, healthy communities, and involved residents. The Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) helps community groups bring their ideas to life for making Seattle a better place to work, live, and play. Many of the city's most iconic attractions were created by the community with support from the program.

Recognized and replicated worldwide, the Neighborhood Matching Fund was created in 1988 to provide neighborhood groups with city resources for community driven projects. Over the years, the program has supported thousands of community projects ranging from playgrounds and parks to street festivals, community gardens, emergency preparedness, public art, and more. Chances are there's an NMF project in your neighborhood.

Program Details

The Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) provides matching dollars for projects that feature a high level of community participation and self-help. The beneficiaries



of any proposed project are involved with shaping and implementing the project in partnership with the city of Seattle. Every award is matched by neighborhood or commu-



nity resources, such as volunteer labor, donated materials, donated professional services, or cash.

Community building is at the heart of every Matching Fund project. In addition to leveraging city funds and responding to emerging neighborhood priorities, the NMF gives neighborhoods the resources they need to proactively take responsibility for their communities.



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Project Types

NMF projects generally fall into these categories:

- Physical improvements (ex. parks, playgrounds, kiosks)
- Planning and design (ex. traffic circulation, walking trails)
- Community organizing (ex. trainings, advocacy, education)
- Non-physical projects (ex. street festivals, civic engagement)
- Youth violence prevention (ex. leadership conferences)
- Race and social justice (ex. cross-cultural sharing)
- Arts and culture (ex. public art, cultural festivals)
- Environmental activities (ex. rain gardens, greenways, recycling)
- Public school projects (ex. literacy programs, tutoring)



Types of Funds

Small Sparks Fund

- awards up to \$1,000
- applications accepted year-round

Small and Simple Projects Fund

- awards up to \$25,000
- applications due March 4 or October 7, 2013

Large Projects Fund

- awards up to \$100,000
- mandatory workshop with applications due May 6

2012 Facts

The Neighborhood Matching Fund processed nearly 200 applications for community projects throughout the city. Of these applications, 137 community building projects and awarded more than \$2,488,326 to community groups. This City investment is being matched by community contributions valued at over \$4 million dollars.

2012 by Fund	Applications	Awards	Award Amount	Community Match
Small Sparks	69	51	\$ 41,937	\$ 116,417
Small and Simple	102	70	\$ 1,138,885	\$ 1,463,183
Large Projects Fund	25	15	\$ 1,307,504	\$ 2,630,559
Total	196	136	\$ 2,488,326	\$ 4,210,159

Contact Information

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